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'Storm of the Century'
Read Gail Stelter's Writing on the Senior Side on page 2.

Chaga 101
See photos from Steve Lukacic's seminar on page 3.

Let it snow
Read Maybelle's Fireside Stories on page 5.

Poquito Loco's first Tacos and Tunes night of 2024 took place Friday at Castle Antiques & Café where locals braved the weather to take in some live music and Mexican food. The Ya Babys provided the soundtrack on a stormy night while those who braved the weather enjoyed some classic Mexican grub. / ADAM FRISK Special to *County Life*

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The following inserts are being distributed with County Life this week:

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Shoppers Drug Mart Haliburton *

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Todd's Independent *

All inserts are to selected distribution areas.

For information on how your flyer can be inserted each week in County Life please contact Melissa Armstrong at **613-332-2002** or **melissa@haliburtonpress.com**

Writing on the Senior Side

Winter storm

GAIL STELTER

Special to *County Life*

It covers and brightens. It welcomes enthusiastic participation in snowmobiling, snowshoeing, cross-country and downhill skiing. It beckons gentle walks along snow-covered trails or on our municipality-cleaned paths and walkways. It doesn't stop us from pursuing our work and life interests. At night the full moon casts breathtaking shadows across its white milky drifts. It is that gentle stroke of winter in the beautiful Haliburton Highlands. It is a winter wonderland.

A joyful morning surprise as I pull back the bedroom curtain and marvel that my world has changed overnight. A perfect day begins with the warm fire, complete with kitty in front, a hot cup of coffee and a cozy blanket as I sit in my swivel chair at the window on my world. The distant hill is snow-covered, and the Colorado Blue Spruce sport branches laden white. The little black squirrel catches my eye as he darts across the chalky white snow. Blue Jays have doubled in size as they don their thick winter feather coats. Pause and pause again. For now, I put aside thoughts of shovelling, bitter cold and icy snow-covered roads. Haliburton is our winter wonderland.

By the time we reach the senior side, we have probably experienced at least one harrowing drive in a winter snowstorm. Several come to my mind, and one tops them all.

"We're taking I-75 all the way. The storm is due on the east coast. We'll be fine."

I am an educator, recently appointed vice-principal. Storm or no storm, we have to go for March Break. Florida, here we come! The border crossing is uneventful, and the kids want to stop at the outlet mall south of Detroit. Duke and Indiana Hoosiers basketball shorts, t-shirts, golf shirts, summer beachwear and a Walkman are on various lists. Yes, of course, we can stop. The weather is fine. Adding an extra hour or so to our trip is not a problem.

It's starting to snow. Ohio is long and slow, but all is well. We hit Kentucky, and it's getting dark. The snow is blowing. My eyes are glued open. My job is to look for the edge of the road while he concentrates on the road ahead. Cars are in the ditches now. Will they close the highways? Fewer cars are on the highway and even more in the ditches.

We are in Tennessee, and a pit stop is needed. Be careful on the exit ramp. We're hungry, and the only restaurant at this stop is Gerry's Restaurant. There is a gas station but no hotels or stores or a town nearby. We have never heard of Gerry's, but this is no time to be selective. Only a few people are inside, but we are still feeling positive. Then, a Tennessee State Trooper comes in and lets everyone know the state police are about to shut down the highway. Oh no, we don't want to be stuck here when the highway closes. Let's get out of here and perhaps we can get to an exit that has a hotel. Realistically though, what are the chances of there being an empty hotel room on March break in a snowstorm? Let's see if we can get through Tennessee. The driver is getting tired, but there is no way he will let me drive. We haven't seen a snowplough. Do they even have snowplows in this state? Snow on the roads is very deep now. Only one or two smart people like us. We follow directly behind a 16-wheeler, driving in its tracks. Smokey Mountains with a foot of snow, fog, in a blizzard. No more than 20 miles an hour and sometimes stressful to keep up with the truck ahead. Thank goodness for trucks and their ruts. Thank goodness for our Aerostar van with its high wheelbase. If we can just make it to Georgia. Surely there won't be snow in Georgia. The road sign says Welcome to Georgia… made it… but it's still snowing.

Keep going. Hopefully, it won't be snowing in Atlanta. After all, it's just an hour or so to Atlanta.

Hurray, no snow, just rain in Atlanta, and now to find a hotel room. We pull into a large Marriot Hotel that is right off the highway and near the airport. The rooms reserved for airplane pilots and stewardesses have been opened as all flights into Atlanta have been cancelled. We get that last room, and the people behind us in line are starting to hunker down in the lobby. One room for all six of us, but we are not complaining. Peter has been driving for almost 24 hours. He sleeps in a chair.

It seems cold in the room. Is the heat working? Peter looks out the window. The snowstorm has hit Atlanta! Not a car on the highway, no electricity or heat. Just a blizzard blowing snow everywhere. Oh no. Well, at least we are safe.

Early the next morning, Peter and our son head out to see if they can find an open gas station. The rest of us wait. No gas, no go, stay at this hotel. They head up on the down ramp as it is clearly the safest choice. There are no other cars on the road at the time. They find one open gas station, fill up the car, and come back for the rest of us. Surely it will not be snowing in Florida.

Blacktop is a beautiful highway colour. We made it and the snow and rain have stopped. We are south of Macon and on our way to Florida.

We've never been so relieved to read the Welcome to Florida sign. Everyone is hungry, and we need to get out of this car. The restaurant seems cold. We are told the electricity and heat came back on ten minutes before our arrival. Lunch may take some time, but all systems are working. Perfect timing!

It went down in the record books as Winter Storm '93 and on Wikipedia, it is still called "The Storm of the Century".

Winter Blues
Beautiful blue skies over Pelaw Lake.
/ LAURA SMITH Staff

So mushroom to learn

Yours Outdoors hosted several events over the weekend in the Haliburton Highlands, including a "Chaga 101" seminar, where Highlanders learned about the medicinal uses and health benefits of the chaga fungus. /ADAM FRISK Special to *County Life*

Outdoorsman Steve Lukacic hosts a seminar about the health benefits, sustainable harvesting, and cultivation chaga.

HSF 2024 Live Theatre!
Highlands Summer Festival

2024 Audition Invitation

The Highlands Summer Festival is holding auditions for the following 2024 productions:

- **The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee (a musical)**
- **The Miracle Worker**
- **The Birds & the Bees**

Saturday, January 27, from 10 a.m.
Sunday, January 28, from 12:30 p.m.

at **St. George's Anglican Church**
617 Mountain Street, Haliburton

Character descriptions and other important details, including how to register, can be found in the audition package, linked from the HSF home page at **www.highlandssummerfestival.on.ca**

Recycle Right

Print recycling posters for home and work at **dysartetal.ca/recycle**

Recycling for Containers

Rinse all containers and ensure they are clean of liquids or food

Food & Beverage Cartons
Plastic bottles, tubs, containers (caps can be left on)
Plastic plant pots and trays (no soil)
Glass bottles and jars
Metal beverage cans, metal food cans
Aluminum foil and trays
Cardboard canisters
Styrofoam (food and drink only)
Plastic shopping bags (clean, dry, empty)

Recycling for Papers

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Newspapers
Magazines & Catalogues
Paper (office, mixed, writing)
Envelopes (includes ones with windows)
Corrugated cardboard (flatten)
Paper beverage cups (plastic lids go in Recycling for Containers)
Brown paper bags
Paper egg cartons, paper take-out trays
Toilet paper rolls, Paper towel rolls

Garbage

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Plastic Ziploc bags, other plastic film & bags
Plastic food pouches
Cookie, chip, bar, snack bags and wrappers
Plastic straws, plastic cutlery
Disposable gloves, masks, sanitizing wipes
Food waste (consider composting)
Broken ceramics
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Styrofoam block and peanuts
Diapers (consider reusable)
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Teaching tradition

The Fur Harvesters' Annual Workshop took place at the Lloyd Watson Community Centre in Wilberforce to offer demonstrations and education on fur harvesting on Saturday, Jan. 13. /TIM YANO Special to *County Life*

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Let it snow, let it snow, let it snow, don'tcha know

Maybelle's

Fireside stories

DEAR READERS,

Well, Mama Nature's recent snowfall sure has us all busy here in Lake WhaddayathinkImean, don'tcha know. Why, my beautiful Japanese Dappled Willow out back of my cottage has snowballs clustered in its pruned twig-like branches that's got it looking like an art installation. And those big sky-licking evergreens with their big mounds of fallen sugar look like big white bear claws. A virtual Hallmark greeting card right here in my own backyard. And then, there's the driveway.

Well, with the good, unfortunately, oftentimes comes the eeeeeegaaaaad! Why, depending on the TYPE of snow, 'ol Maybelle can get these bones to shovelling. But, come the heavier layers, why thank goodness for good friends like Beanpole Starkman who is always at the ready with his goodwill and good snowblower, don'tcha know.

The snow-laden ground sure has taken a bite out of these 'ol bones hiking and just walking carefree along Lake W. Gotta be careful of hidden ice, which is why I wear grippers on the bottoms of my boots, don'tcha know. The kind of cleats I can take off easily before shopping at Mort and Gloria Fripferder's Lake W Food Mart, don'tcha know.

And did I mention the icicles hanging off my windows? Why, I remember years ago when Beanpole came by to chop a big one down. Yes, CHOP. The icicle was THAT big! It looked like the beanstalk 'ol Jack climbed to steal the golden egg, except it was solid ice, close to a foot wide, attached to the roof that went all the way down to the ground outside of my kitchen window.

The plan was for Beanpole to wait for Twindle Mumbly to come by and so they could work together for safety reasons, don'tcha know. But, Beanpole was just itching to take an axe to that thing before Twindle arrived, and the next thing I know, I'm in the kitchen and hear screaming coming from out back like ten yowling cats in heat.

I throw the kitchen door open and race outside to find Beanpole, flat on his back, in three feet of snow with the icicle-tree laying on top of him, right down the full length of his body. All you could see of Beanpole was the top of his head and his big clunky snow boots. Why that thing was so heavy, (how heavy was it?) that it took three of us to lift it enough for him to roll out from under it. It must have weighed a ton. Thank goodness, Twindle had arrived with his twin brother, Dwindle, to help us free 'ol Beanpole from his icy predicament. Boy oh boy, was Beanpole ever lucky. That three feet of snow that he fell backward into, cushioned his whole body from breaking, don'tcha know.

Now, why am I bringing this up now? Because I hope this cautionary tale might help prevent a mishap in your winter days ahead. In the meantime, enjoy the beauty. It surely is magnificent, don'tcha know!

P.S. I hinted several weeks ago about something special coming up in February that I think you just might get a giggle out of. So, you might want to jot this down on your calendar. Why, if 'ol Maybelle isn't going to be on stage with all my good friends from Lake WhaddayathinkImean on Friday, February 16 at the Northern Lights Pavilion. That's right. I'll be writing a brand spanking new Valentine's Day column right there on the stage as all my good friends come to life right before your eyes – Vilma Yucch, Officer Stanley Penelope McBottom, Beanpole Starkman, Sybil Beaucannon Hughes, Twindle Mumbly and even his twin brother, Dwindle, better known as Stix Tooya, drummer of the popular rock group, Gastritis, don'tcha know. Why we'll be helping to fundraise for the new youth theatre company, Ctrl-ALT-Del headed up by Tim Nicholson at: *A Valentine's Cabaret*. The young thespians will be performing eight short love-themed (for Valentine's Day) theatre pieces and then 'ol Maybelle will top it off with ten minutes of fun-filled silliness. Sure would love to see you there and it's for a great cause, don'tcha know. It's all happening on Friday, Feb. 16 at 7:30 p.m. For tickets: tickets.ctrlartdel.ca.

Maybelle's Fireside Stories is written by Jerelyn Craden. "Maybelle's Cure for What Ails You," 21 of Maybelle's best short stories is now available at www.amazon.com.

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Local business, local community

KATE BUTLER
Special to *County Life*

A couple of nights ago I was attending a local fundraiser and as I gazed around the room, I got a warm and fuzzy feeling, thinking about the wonderful and generous community in which we live. There are various definitions of the word community, including the most simple and basic which is 'a group of people living in the same place', but I quite liked another which suggested that it was 'a feeling of fellowship with others'. Even more than that, community is also about people supporting, helping and looking out for each other in various ways.

In Haliburton County's early days, communities were close knit out of necessity. It was often a long and relatively slow journey to get to larger urban centres, particularly before the arrival of the railway in 1878. We may think of many people being involved in the lumber industry, whether in the lumbercamps or at the mills, but there have also always been a variety of local businesses and merchants in our communities, often supplying those items which local residents might not be able to produce themselves. A photo springs to mind of Frederick Freeman's store on Pine Avenue, showing a huge display of oil lamps in the window. Just imagine the small luxury of having some of these and the oil to go with them and the difference they

would have made on a cold and dark winter evening before electricity. Throughout the community, other merchants and tradespeople supplied other goods and services to keep daily life flowing. From new wheels for wagons and well-fitted horseshoes to stylish haircuts and repairs to heirloom watches, it seemed like practically anything one needed was available. Sometimes purchases were made by trade and barter when cash was in short supply, but local merchants were supported and appreciated for filling needs in the community.

Today, it's easier than ever before to order anything we might want online or to choose to shop when travelling out of town for other reasons, but there are still so many reasons to shop locally. The stores and businesses in our community are run by and employ our friends and neighbours - our community. They create and sell products which reflect the Highlands, as well as bringing goods to us from other places, adding convenience to our lives. Local businesses are also vital to events and fundraisers in our community, donating generously (and repeatedly!) to silent auctions, giving discounts on goods and even sponsoring local sports teams. Visitors to the Haliburton Highlands Museum often remark to me about the range and quality of local businesses in our community, but in order to keep this vibrancy, those of us who live in the Highlands also need to remember to consistently support local business, especially during the quieter times of the year. This week, I'd like to encourage you to take time to visit a local business that's new to you. You might find the spark for a new favourite hobby, the best hot chocolate you've ever had or the perfect sweater to keep you cozy this winter. Perhaps you'll learn something new, hear an interesting story or make a new friend. No matter what, you'll find yourself part of the circle of community, which benefits us all.

Top 10 things early man said when they learned how to harness fire

I THINK WE can all agree that fire is one of the greatest discoveries made by early man. Even so, I can't help but wonder what the first people who learned how to harness fire said. If they were anything like us, I think these next ten things might be good guesses.

STEVE GALEA
Humour Columnist

1. Close the door, we are not heating the outside.
2. Has anyone seen my pet moth?
3. Ouch!
4. You know what would be funny? Lighting one of these under Grog's shoe…
5. Finally, a hot meal!
6. What we need is a good stick to poke it with.
7. This is nice, but can we get cable?
8. Great, now we need to invent the axe!
9. Where's my guitar?
10. Who would have known you were a lousy cook?

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Road

Birch bones, springing from Snow, beneath a stone Sky,
burrs of grey birds, clinging to branches, their chirps, rumpling Air,
as I stare at the crumpled balls of feathers, wondering whether they are family,
gathering on this birch tree, to sing their morning chorus in the cold, as I stop on the side of the road to listen,
my limbs, still, as the winter trees, their bare branches, arching over the road,
reaching, through Air, towards the skeletons of trees, frozen on the other side, the tips of their twigs, barely touching,
as snowflakes begin floating down, blurring the space between them, muffling the birds' song,
as they flit in and out of the birch tree, clumps of my Breath, blooming, then dissolving into Air,
as I resume clomping along the road, greeting pine saplings poking from Snow,
to ruffle the softness of their needles, their elders, hovering over them,
wondering whether they will grow as tall as these giant pines,
these guardians of the forest, that sprawls beyond the road,
fresh Snow cloaking the ground, as my boot prints trample snowflakes as they land,
my eyes, jolting, as a smear of deer bolts across the road,
its fur blending in with the trunks of trees, as it zig-zags through Snow,
the white fur of its tail, bobbing through Air, 'till it disappears, into the forest, leaving dents of its hoof prints behind,
as I peer through spokes of trees, to see if I can spot the deer, its hooves, dimpling Snow,
wondering when its pace will slow, to catch its Breath, deep in the sanctuary of the forest, amongst the pines,
while my boot prints brand the road, approaching the curve that winds up the hill, the spot where I always rest,
leaning against the spine of a birch, to catch my Breath, and peer up at Sky, at all the snowflakes tumbling down,
blotting the pebble of Sun, that gleams like the Moon, this morning, as I blink sleep crumbs out of my eyes,
feeling more awake than I did an hour ago, as I glanced out the window,
frost flowers sprouting on the glass, Snow blanketing grass,
the cackle of crows, luring me Outside, to meander along this river of road, that I've walked hundreds of times,
never growing tired of greeting the saplings and pines, the birches, stripped bare by winter, and now, my hands,
as I secretly peel a thin scrap of skin off its trunk, that curls in my palm, as I walk,
carrying a piece of this road in my pocket, wherever I go, inhaling Air, laced with Snow,
the branches of bare trees, arching over me, winter amplifying their stoic beauty.

Sylvie Kalenda

What's happening at Point in Time?

Community learning series/caregiver workshops and youth group

Point in Time and MindFit will be offering a monthly community learning series workshop from January - April on Wednesday evenings that will be free of charge and offered in-person at Point in Time's main office as well as virtually. No registration is required.

To learn more about topics, visit www.pointintime.ca, check out our updates on Facebook, or email Rachelle Stephens, Clinical Team Lead/Child, Youth and Family Therapist, at rachelles@pointintime.ca.

Youth Wellness Hub update

Tutoring and homework help as well as drop-in resume and employment support will now be offered on Tuesdays, 3:30-5:15 p.m. at Point in Time's new satellite space (235 Highland St./upper floor) starting Tuesday, Jan. 23.

We are working on planning some activities for March Break!

We are also looking forward to running the PreVenture Program again this year with Trillium Lakelands District School Board in March at Archie Stouffer Elementary School for Grade 8 students.

Keep track of all of our drop-in activities and events by following us on instagram @halicountyyouthhub!

Early intervention update

Our Mother Goose program for children under 18 months will be happening for eight weeks, running Jan 16- March 5 from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. at Archie Stouffer Elementary School. Join for songs, rhymes, & finger plays for little ones!

Register at registration@oeyc.ca or call 705-324-7900.

Thank you

Staff and Board members at Point in Time would like to sincerely thank community members and agency partners that helped contribute to creating a memorable Christmas for many families in our area this past holiday season.

This season, we were able to support 118 youth and children from 36 families and provide 50 satchels to youth in our community.

Your generous donations are always appreciated.

Submitted by Point in Time Centre for Children, Youth and Parents

22 lines

The city feels so far away
A memory, a concept grey
And filmy, like a distant Oz
Important still, though wrapped in gauze
Since in it I once formed and grew
Got land-legs and that friendly glue
Which finds great people, their knowhow
To help me clad my soul, yet vow
That one day I will pack and leave
For where much higher I'd perceive
About, not what is fast and new
But ancient slowness, basic view
To give me more, and not much less
Despite apparent simpleness
Those woods who speak it if I hear
Bring better truth to humble ear
About good nature, time and art
Reject the tiny folk who start
A ruckus just for ruckus sake
Which to the trees is sad mistake
Instead of gentle stance between
The sky and earth: my faith is clean

By Deborah J Reed

Community Events

Send your event listing to classifieds@haliburtonpress.com

Creative Collaborations
When: Tuesdays at 1 p.m.
Where: St. George's Anglican Church.
617 Mountain Street
Share your skills. Learn new skills. Bring your own project or work on the featured project. Beginners Welcome. Contact lynnhiggsthompson@haliburtonanglican.ca for details.

Seniors Chair Exercises
When: Thursdays, at 1 p.m.
Where: St. George's Anglican Church,
617 Mountain Street
Safe and gentle exercises for seniors to help with balance, strength and flexibility. Free to join.

Cribbage and Euchre
When: Tuesdays at 2 p.m.
Where: St. George's Anglican Church,
617 Mountain St.
Please join us Tuesdays for cribbage and Euchre at St. George's Anglican Church. With funding from the Government of Ontario. Please contact lynnhiggsthompson@haliburtonanglican.ca for more information.

Ladies Auxiliary Luncheon
When: Jan. 26, 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Where: Coboconk Legion, Hwy 48 & 35
Please join us for a luncheon prepared by the Ladies Auxiliary. The cost is $13 to attend. Call 705-454-8127 or email info@coboconklegion.ca for more information.

Minden & District Horticultural Society Pot Luck
When: Feb. 3, noon
Where: Our Lady of Fatima Church,
7 Bobcaygeon Rd. Minden
Please bring your own mug, plate, and utensils for the lunch. Lunch will be followed by a presentation by our guest Speaker Marilyn Bodogh, 'Hearts and Flowers.'

Lift Your Spirits! Music with Drew Allen
When: Saturday, Feb. 3, 2 to 4 p.m.
Where: Highland Hills United Church,
21 Newcastle St., Minden
Drew Allen, a talented local pianist, singer, and guitarist will be performing uplifting tunes for all ages, from Billy Joel to Gershwin, Bach to Disney. Tickets $20 in advance, $25 at the door. Family tickets $50. Light refreshments will be served, as well as a bake sale. This is a fundraiser for the church's elevator fund. Tickets online at eventbrite.ca (search for Lift Your Spirits and enter Minden as the location).

YUK YUKS Comedy Night
When: Feb. 3, 7:30 p.m.
Where: Coboconk Legion, Hwy 48 & 35
A live event featuring some great stand-up comedians from Yuk Yuk's Comedy Club. Tickets in advance $40. Please call 705-454-8129 or email info@coboconklegion.ca for more information.

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- Minutes from West Guilford, Carnarvon and Haliburton
- Close to Sir Sams, golf courses and restaurants

Kelly Mercer
Broker
705-455-7500
kelly@kelly-mercer.ca

PAUDASH LAKE $999,999

- 1071 Norwester Rd
- 2 Ac w/ 147 ft frtg
- Finished Bsmt w/ walkout
- 3 Bed / 1 Bath

Cheryl Bolger
Sales Representative
705-306-9450
cheryl@cherylbolger.ca

A MUST SEE! $739,000

Beautiful 3+1 bdrm, 2 bath home sitting on over 2 acres. Cathedral ceiling with floor-to-ceiling granite fireplace, over 2,300 sq. ft. of living space and great privacy. Primary bdrm has his/hers walk-in closets, and walkout to sunroom and hot tub. Large 2-bay garage with mezzanine and work area and so much more.

Terry Carr & Drew Staniforth
Sales Representatives
705-935-1011
MovingTheHighlands.com

MINDEN HOME $774,900

- This well loved home has 4 bedrooms and 3 full bathrooms
- The deck off the kitchen overlooks the fenced in yard
- Attached double car garage
- Great neighbours in this growing subdivision

Lisa Mercer
Broker
705-457-0364
www.lisamercer.ca
lisa@lisamercer.ca

11 ACRE COUNTRY ESTATE $939,000

1497 25th Line, Algonquin Highlands
- Check out this brand new bungalow featuring 2,072 sq ft with 3 bedrooms and 2 bathrooms on 11 beautiful acres in the heart of Haliburton Highlands.
- Low maintenance living with a new 4500L septic, drilled well, in floor heating throughout the entire home and full 7 year Tarion Home Warranty
- Absolute pleasure to show, give me a call today and start living the country lifestyle!

Cheryl Smith
Sales Representative
705-455-2500
info@cherylsmithremax
cherylsmithremax.com

INCOME OPPORTUNITY $749,900

SOLAR PANEL INCOME GENERATING PROPERTY (on average $4,100/yr) This Rural country home is not far from the Hamlet of Gooderham in the southern area of Haliburton County. It has 1.27 acres with 425' on the highway but is totally secluded with a panoramic vista over the valley where the Irondale River flows, a spectacular elevated view!

Vince Duchene
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705-457-0046
www.vinceduchene.ca

GOODERHAM $179,900

- .17ac, mostly level in town lot
- Now a Church; zoned Institutional
- Ample parking & wheel chair access
- May require rezoning depending
- Yr-rnd acc; drilled well/hold tank
- Excellent locale; Being sold AS-IS

Rick Forget
Broker
705-457-0580
haliburtonhighlands-remax.ca

$799,900

- Haliburton in-town home
- 3 bedroom plus den and office
- 4 bath
- Beautifully renovated
- Forced air propane furnace
- Central air
- Includes adjacent lot

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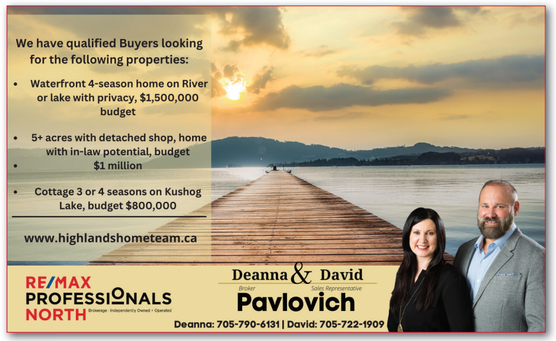
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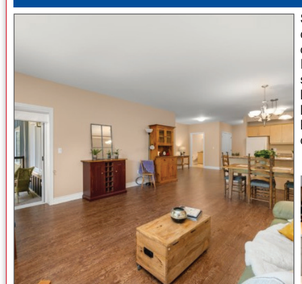
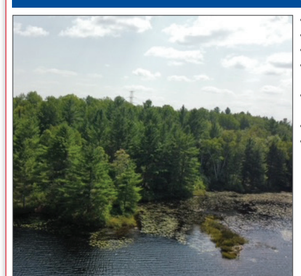
SPACIOUS CONDO $499,000



Spacious 1227 sq. ft, 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo. Conveniently located in the Heart of Haliburton. Private lake view balcony! Inground heated garage with parking spot, storage locker. foyer, utility/in-suite laundry. Open concept kitchen/eating/living room. This unit has radiant in-floor heating, ICF construction, HRV system, ductless A/C.

Deb Lambe
Sales Representative
705-854-0103
debra.lambe@gmail.com

BEER LAKE $289,000



- Beautiful quiet lake, west of Minden
- 900 ft of shoreline, 5.9 acres
- Smooth rocky point with pines
- Gentle lot well treed, gorgeous sunsets
- Lightly developed lake with balance of shoreline crown
- 1000's of acres of crown to the west
- Rough 4x4 road to lot

Ted Vasey
Sales Representative
705-455-2034
ted@tedvasey.ca

$2,900,000

222 acres of rolling Canadian Shield• Sparkling waters of both Cedar & Otter Lakes• Great opportunity • Gorgeous natural views where wildlife abounds.• Draft Plan available for 12 multi-acre lots• Easy 2-hour drive from GTA with year round access.

Ken Barry
Broker 705-754-5280
Jacquie Barry
Realtor® 705-457-0652
www. kenbarry.com
Out Standing In Our Field

Thank You for Believing
$240,106
raised through the Believe in the Magic of Giving Campaign this year.
Ros and Georgia's heartwarming success story and Wally Ozog's $50,000 matching gift inspired you to give generously. Your exceptional support helps us fund the purchase of priority capital equipment including diagnostic imaging tools and provide subsidies to Community Support Services including Meals on Wheels and Medically-Required Transportation.
We are grateful to you. Thank you for believing in the magic of giving.

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Nature in your backyard

County Life welcomes photo submissions depicting life in the Highlands. Email vivian@ haliburtonpress.com. Please ensure images are high resolution - 200 dpi, 10 inches at its longest edge.

Left, a male Downy Woodpecker stands on a snowy branch. /Submitted by Jill Moulton

Above, a beaver swims in a pond not yet frozen. /Submitted by Tammy Nash

HALIBURTON COUNTY HUSKIES

Home Game

M VS HALIBURTON COUNTY HUSKIES

Saturday, Jan. 27 - 4 p.m.

Upcoming Home Games

Saturday, Feb. 10
4 p.m.

Tuesday, Feb. 13
7 p.m.

S.G. Nesbitt Memorial Arena

For more information please visit our website

WWW.HUSKIESHOCKEY.CA

Legion Events

Branch 129 Haliburton

Mondays: Bridge every Monday, 1 p.m. Schofield Rm.
Tuesdays: League darts starting at 7 p.m. Haliburton Army Cadets practice 6:30 to 9 p.m. (Sept to June)
Wednesdays: Bid Euchre 1 p.m. start – Main Hall. Bingo doors open at 6 p.m. Bingo starts at 7 p.m. $500. Follow Facebook.com/Branch129 Bingo for the most up-to-date information
Thursdays: General Meeting third Thursday of the month, starting at 6:30 p.m. All members urged to attend. Ladies Auxiliary last Thursday of the month at 1 p.m.
Fridays: Meat draw has five draws, five prizes each draw, first draw at 4:30 p.m., last draw at 6:30 p.m. Tickets are $2 per draw. Ed Pickard, MC.
Friday fun darts from 4:30 p.m. and onwards.
Saturdays: 50/50 Draw 4 p.m. draw – tickets are $1 each available in the Clubroom.
Whether you're planning a function for 10 or 200, for more information call Cheryl Waller at 905-447-7741, email haliburtonlegionrentals@gmail.com or visit haliburtonlegion.com. Come on out and support Haliburton Legion Branch 129 ... everyone is welcome!
Club room hours: Mon. 3 to 6 p.m., Tues. 3 to 9 p.m., Wed/Thurs. 3 to 6 p.m. Fri. 3 to 7 p.m. and Sat. 3 to 6 p.m.

Branch 636 Minden

Lunch - Monday to Friday
Monday: Rug Hookers every second week. Bid Euchre 1 to 3 p.m.
Tuesday: Food 5 p.m. Canoe FM Bingo 6 p.m.
Thursday: Cribbage 1 to 3 p.m., Darts 7 to 9 p.m. and Euchre 7 to 9 p.m.
Every other Friday: Karaoke 8 to 11 p.m.
Friday Fish & Chips & Wings. Lunch 11a.m. to 2 p.m. and Dinner 4 to 7 p.m.
Every other Friday Karaoke 8 to 11 p.m.
Saturday All Day Breakfast 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. with three Meat draws at 11 a.m.
Call ahead any day for take-out: 705-286-4541
Schedules are subject to change without notice. Check our Facebook page Minden Legion Branch 636 for more info.

Wilberforce

Jan. 25 - HHHS Social 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. - Open 2 to 6 p.m.
Jan. 26 - Senior's 55+ lunch Noon. Open 2 to 9 p.m.
Fish/Chips 5 to 8 p.m.
Jan. 27 - Open 2 to 6 p.m.
Meat Draw 3 p.m.
Jan. 28 to 30
Jan. 31 - Open 2 to 6 p.m.
Darts 2 p.m

If you are planning an event our Ladies Auxiliary would be pleased to cater
Please call the branch at 705-448-2221 to arrange your event.

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Annual General Meeting
Minden Agricultural Society
Sponsors of the Haliburton County Fair

Saturday January 27, 2024
at 1 p.m. at the
Highland Hills United Church
21 Newcastle Street, Minden

New Directors Welcome | Refreshments

400 EMPLOYMENT

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Victoria Road residents lose OMB battle

The Ontario Municipal Board has approved the bid by a Fenelon Falls lawyer to developed a quarry near Victoria Road. After eleven days of arduous hearings and months of protest, the OMB approved the plan to expand an area of the Carden Plain to quarry limestone from James Webster's family farm.

Five W Farms attempted to build the quarry on 470 acres that the Webster family has owned since 1959. Part of the construction of the quarry involved a change to the Victoria County Official Plan. A group of concerned residents from Victoria Road and the surrounding area opposed the construction, citing problems with noise, dust and water contamination. The group has been working since early spring in 1998 to gather research and expert witnesses to support its claim at the Ontario Municipal Board hearing, held in Coboconk in November. The OMB judgement was returned last week and according to Webster, it is hoped that work in the quarry will be underway by the summer. "It was a long process," said Webster. "We got nothing that we were not prepared to accept."

Residents of Victoria Road were upset over the ruling and are now reviewing their options. Michael Poulson was one of the presenters speaking on behalf of those opposed to the quarry. The group was concerned that the community of Victoria Road would be detrimentally affected by the construction of a quarry. "It was exhausting," said Poulson, of the eleven day OMB hearing process. Representatives from both sides met in

(more on page 18)

AND THEY'RE OFF!: The fifteenth annual Minden Techni-cal Challenge Sled Dog Derby proved to be yet another successful race. Crowds of people gathered to watch the two days of racing, which begins and ends on Main Street. Here Musher Gary Callaghan tears out of the start gate and on to a first place finish in the four dog class.

Ontario and Quebec drivers are tops in annual Sled Dog Derby

Ontario and Quebec drivers shared the top honours in this year's Minden Techni-Cal Challenge Sled Dog Derby, held January 16 and 17.

Jean LaFontaine of St. Theophil, Quebec captured the eight dog honours and top prize of $3,100 in prize money. His time for two days of racing was just over an hour at 1:00:25.95.

Top spot in the four dog class went to Gary Callaghan of Madison, Ohio. This was his second appearance at the event. His time was 32:03.18 giving him top prize of $1,600.

Prizes are awarded on the basis of the total time over two days of racing. On Sunday, both top finishers shaved significant seconds off their first heat on Saturday. Lafontaine covered the eight mile course on Saturday in 30:37.87 and completed the circuit on Sunday in 29:48.08. Callaghan's time over the four mile course for Saturday was 16:16.77, while on Sunday he completed the course in 15:46.41.

This was the fifteenth running of this annual event, which drew thousands of spectators to the small central Ontario community of Minden. Mushers from as far away as New Mexico and Colorado took part, with the largest contingents coming from Ontario and Quebec.

Race Governor Val Lougheed was extremely happy with the weekend of racing. "We had a great group of mushers who were very pleased with the conditions and the welcome they received from the Minden and area residents. The event, which is sponsored by Martin Pet Foods of Elmira, is staged with the assistance of over 150 volunteers.

Other top finishers in the eight dog class included: in second place, Real Turmel of St. Augustin, Quebec at 1:01:13.66; third Lou Serre of Markstay, Ontario at 1:02:03.88; fourth, Cindy Samburg-Jost of Paul Smiths, New York at 1:02:54.11; and Richard Therrien of St. Emile, Quebec at 1:02:56.45.

Those sharing the top five honours in the four dog class included: in second place, Pat Hnatiuk of Massey Ontario at 33:13.49; third, Lou Serre of Markstay, Ontario with a time of 33:13.98; fourth, Jean LaFontaine of St. Theophil, Quebec at 34:28.14; and fifth John Samburgh of Paul Smiths, New York, 34:55.26.

New to this year's event, and to the North American racing circuit, was the Junior Class, for mushers between the ages of eight and 13. Jaclyn Rice of Saylorsburg, Pennsylvania captured the top prize in this event.

Following last year's derby, which is sanctioned by the International Sled Dog Racing Association, participating mushers voted this event the best in the North America.

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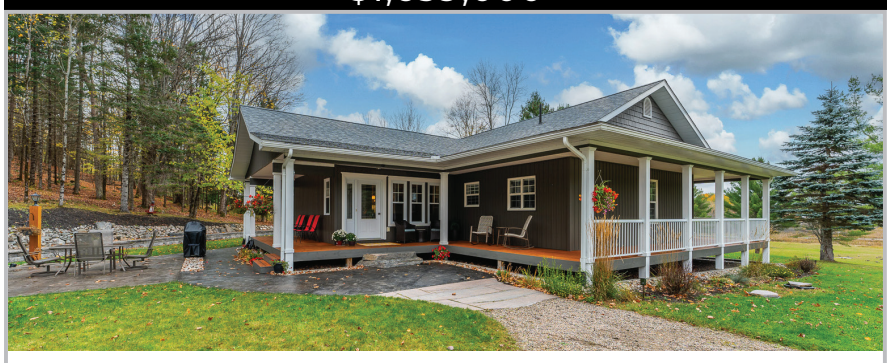

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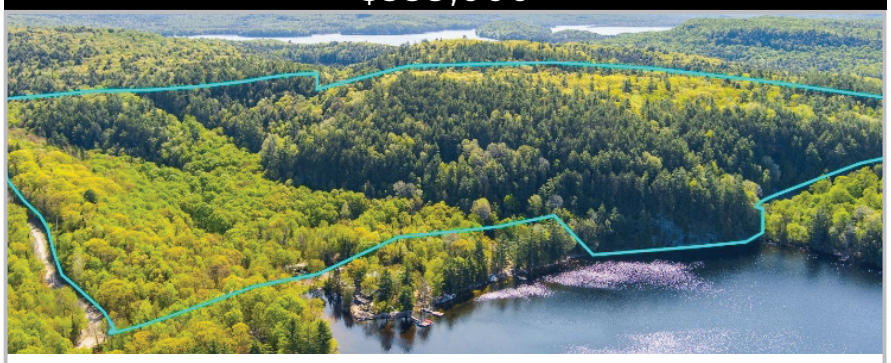

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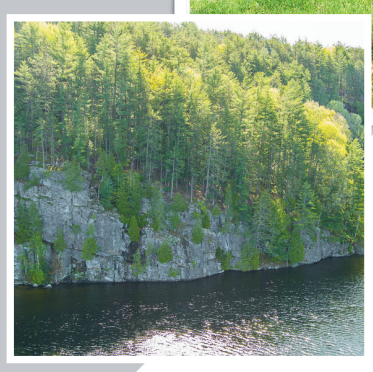

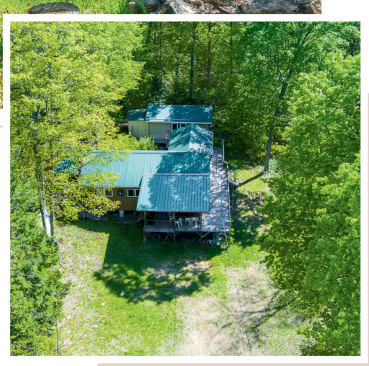

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